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## Turner Says Carter Wants C.I.A. To Adhere to Law and U.S. Values

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—Adm. Stansfield Turner said today that President Carter had asked for assurances that he would conduct the work of all United States intelligence agencies "strictly in accordance with the law and with American values."

The 53-year-old admiral made the statement in testifying before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on his appointment to be Director of Central Intelligence and head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

At the same time, President Carter was telling a group of Congressional leaders at the White House that he had cut down the number of White House officials with access to intelligence secrets from 40 to 5.

Senator Alan Cranston of California, the Senate majority whip, reported that Mr. Carter had indicated his desire to curb intelligence disclosures, such as the report last week that King Hussein of Jordan had been on the C.I.A. payroll.

The President also told the legislators of his concern that too many members of Congress had access to intelligence secrets—members of seven committees now receive C.I.A. briefings—but said it was up to them to determine what to do about it.

In his testimony, Admiral Turner said, "Covert operations must be handled very discreetly; people's lives are at stake."

It would be desirable, he added, if only one committee of each house of Congress were kept informed on sensitive operations overseas.

But the admiral promised to keep the Senate committee promptly informed of covert operations by the C.I.A. and said that, beyond these severely limited briefings on sensitive matters, he believed it would be useful if more rather than fewer members of Congress were given access to intelligence briefings on general issues so as to enhance public discussion.

Admiral Turner, who is the commander of North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces in southern Europe, was closely questioned about his intention to remain on the Navy's active duty roster even if he is confirmed as the nation's intelligence chief.

He replied that, since the C.I.A. was formed in 1947, it had had 11 military officers as directors or deputy directors, of whom nine remained on the active duty list, and of whom seven returned to a military assignment.

The admiral, who wore a blue civilian suit, said the President had expressed "a strong desire that I remain on active duty." The two men were graduates of the 1946 class of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. Admiral Turner said he had "thoroughly enjoyed" his 30 years in the Navy and was "anxious not to foreclose the possibility" of returning to service.

Earlier, Senator Howard H. Baker Jr., Republican of Tennessee, the Senate minority leader, had urged the admiral to resign his commission on the ground that an active military man at the head of a civilian agency might damage its credibility. Senator Bakre dahplayed an active role last month in overturning Mr. Carter's first nomination to the C.I.A. post, Theodore C. Sorensen.

In a prepared statement, Admiral Turner said that as intelligence chief his priorities would be to avoid biased intelligence estimates, to rebuild the reputation of the intelligence community following disclosures of "questionable intelligence activities," and to insure that intelligence work "is conducted lawfully."

On the last-named point, he said: "I believe with my deepest conviction that the greatest strength we have as a world power is our moral dedication to the rights of the individual."